PRESS RELEASE

Hollister Police Arrest Two Students With Weapons and Explosives

HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA – *January* 28, 2010 – Hollister Police officers have arrested two San Benito High School students, charging them with conspiracy and possession of weapons and explosive powder on the school campus. Investigators report the students may have been planning an attack at the high school.

On January 25 at about 3:15 p.m. the Hollister Police Department received a report of a student in possession of a weapon and explosive powder at San Benito High School. Officer Carlos Rodriguez responded to the initial report, and contacted school administrators. Officer Rodriguez determined the student, a 14-year-old male, was in possession of a knife and explosive powder.

Subsequent investigation by Detectives Don Pershall, David Anderson and Sergeant Dan Winn determined the student also had diagrams for making bombs, a list of equipment to obtain (including firearms and ammunition), as well as other writings. They also found that the student had developed a scenario involving an attack on the high school. Another student, a 15-year-old male, was linked to the scenario and the weapons and explosive.

This case was initially brought to light by an alert and concerned classmate of one of the suspects, who reported the 14-year-old to be in possession of the explosive on campus. School administrators acted quickly to investigate and report the incident.

The parents and guardians of both males were cooperative during the investigation, expressing great concern upon discovering that the boys were involved in this activity.

Both suspects were arrested and booked into San Benito County Juvenile Hall.

The Hollister Police Department is still actively investigating this case. Anyone with information regarding this incident is requested to contact Detective Don Pershall at 636-4330. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may call **WeTIP** at **(800) 78-CRIME**. Information provided to **WeTIP** may qualify for a Reward.

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